

110 Arbor Hill Commons #32
Brattleboro, VT 05301

December 12, 2018

Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

I am writing in support of the Comments of Brattleboro Community Television, Inc. (File ID 1113560010350) and to disapprove of the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC's September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05-311.

Many years ago, I was a volunteer for BCTV. I learned then how important it is for the members of the public to view School Board and Select Board Meetings while they are in action. Viewers learn more about the issues of their community and who is making decisions and why those were the decision made. I recall one time when a man showed up for the meeting because he heard that a topic was going to be discussed and he wanted to offer his perspective.

How could any citizen of the United States deny this access for people to be informed about their community? It is fundamental to our democracy.

This local presence enables the residents of Brattleboro, VT to create and watch uniquely local programming about their community and local events and issues of interest to them. That was the intent of the PEG provisions of the 1984 Cable Act – to enhance local voices, serve local community needs and interests, and strengthen our local democracy. By defining “franchise fee” in an overly broad fashion to include “in-kind” support, the FCC's proposals will shift the fair balance between cable franchising authorities and cable operators – something that was never the intent of the Act – and could ultimately result in such reduction in franchise fees as to defund PEG Access in our state.

I appreciate your consideration and hope you will protect PEG Access in our community and others by choosing not to adopt many of the proposals in the Further Notice.

Sincerely,

Pamela Becker, teacher